

MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD

TUESDAY JULY 24, 2012

HELD AT:

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WALLACE BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 4W
DES MOINES, IA


For Office Use Only	
Date Minutes Approved By SPAB:	<u>10-18-12</u>
Director's Signature:	 Bruce Trautman Deputy Director
RECORD COPY	
File Name: ADM 1-1-1	
SPAB MINUTES	
Sender's initials:	<u>K7</u>

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MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Preserves Advisory Board (SPAB) was called to order by the SPAB Acting Chairperson, Wayne Phipps, on July 24, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Wayne Phipps, Acting & Newly Nominated Chairperson
Thomas Putnam
Bruce Trautman
Lynn Alex
Leesa McNeil
Kirk Larsen

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Inger Lamb

DNR STAFF PRESENT

Daryl Howell, DNR
John Pearson, DNR
Aaron Brees, DNR
Karen Fynaardt, DNR
Travis Baker, DNR
Kelly Poole, DNR

GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT

Dave Riley, Des Moines County Conservation Board, Burlington
Bob Beck, Des Moines Supervisor, Danville
Kim Perlstein, Des Moines County Conservation Board, Burlington
Justin Bushong, Southeast Iowa Planning Commission, Burlington
Brian Carter, Des Moines Secondary Roads, W. Burlington

Introduction of all members present.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion -- to approve as presented -McNeil

Seconded -- Alex

Decision -- Motion Carried by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICECHAIR

Nomination of Wayne Phipps as Chairperson by McNeal, Seconded by Putnam.

Putnam moved nominations cease

McNeal Approved

Motion Carried by Unanimous Vote

Motion – motioned to approve Wayne Phipps as Chairperson - McNeil

Seconded – Putnam

Decision – Motion Carried by Unanimous Vote

Nomination of Inger Lamb for Vice Chairperson by McNeal. Seconded by Putnam.

Putnam moved nominations cease.

McNeil Approved

Motion carried by Unanimous vote

Motion – motioned to approve Lamb as Vice Chair - McNeil

Seconded – Putnam

Decision – Motion Carried by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

3. APPROVE MINUTES FROM MAY 4, 2012 SPAB PUBLIC MEETING

Alex asked why the change of meeting time from 10:00 am to 10:30. Pearson mentioned because of Board members traveling from the far corners of the state, a 10:30 time was decided after the last meeting.

Motion – motioned to approve as written Alex

Seconded – Putnam

Decision – Motion Carried by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

3. STARR'S CAVE STATE PRESERVE

The Des Moines County Conservatin Board proposal for improving existing trails, and construct a new trail segment through the preserve. The proposal will include use by bicycles. Information concerning the proposed trail and previous decisions of SPAB and NRC was given before the meeting. Board members had several questions for Des Moines County.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

Motion – Motion to approve the proposal

Seconded – Larson

Discussion – to extend the 1500' and to allow biking when completed.

Decision – Motion Carried by Unanimous Vote

4. GENERAL DISCUSSION

McNeil asked “new Member” questions as follows.

Q. - Is there a SPAB budget?

A.- No there is not a budget, board members are reimbursed through general fund. \$15,000 is set aside for ecological research, planning, archeological and geological studies.

Q. – Can SPAB apply for REAP grants?

A. – Yes, Private entities, counties, cities and NGO's for the 25 to 50% match.

Q. – July 22, 2011 minutes are not on the internet, was there a meeting?

A. – Yes there was a meeting. A contact with Records to receive a copy and add them to the website.

Q. – There are 99 preserves, do all counties have them?

A.- Not all counties have a preserve area.

Pearson updated the members on Spirit Knoll that the management plan will be written soon on their findings at a May visit. The package will be presented to the SPAB members at their October meeting

Brees gave the board information about the open meetings law.

The SPAB member website information will be updated after the July meeting. Staff will check on the possibility of adding more SPAB information such as maps, species and etc to the website.

July 24, 2012

State Preserves Advisory Board

LYON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 322
Rock Rapids, IA 51246

July 6, 2012

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
502 East 9th
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Attn: John Pearson & Daryl Howell, Iowa State Preserve Administrators

Dear Sirs:

Since it was organized in 1971, the Lyon County Historical Society has had a concern about the condition of Gitchie Manitou and the archaeological sites that lie to the south on the banks of the Big Sioux River. Until recently, no funds were available locally to address the problems in that area. With the prospect of assistance from a new organization, the Lyon County Riverboat Foundation, the Society has set a goal to protect the archaeological and geological assets unique to the area and eventually bring it under the umbrella of the National Park Service.

For a number of years, Gitchie Manitou State Preserve has attracted undesirable elements that have destroyed the shelter house, littered the area with trash and created a negative environment. Others, who would enjoy the natural wonders there, are discouraged from visiting the area because it is unsupervised and possibly dangerous.

Our Society has encouraged public discussion about how to solve this problem. It is the general consensus that those who use the area for excessive drinking, etc. would go elsewhere if Gitchie Manitou became more open to the general public. We have learned from the Lyon County Sheriff that his department would include the preserve in its routine patrol if obstacles to vehicle traffic are removed and if his force was able to make an arrest if a person was presented in the area after prescribed hours. Presently, intruders can only be arrested if they are committing some other crime, such as fighting or drunkenness. A common complaint was that the banning of vehicles prevents families from a leisurely drive through the preserve as is done in other parks. Another suggestion was that the designated pathway be hard surfaced. A local 4H group has volunteered to pick up trash, broken glass, etc.

In the past, we have had discussions with the Department of Natural Resources personnel in this part of the state, including Greg Hanson, the local game warden and Chris LaRue, Field Officer. They have been supportive of our ideas but are primarily interested in the portion of Gitchie Manitou that is a part of wildlife management. We understand that the state preserve is under your jurisdiction and that we need your guidance and permission to pursue our goals. Therefore, we hope that we can discuss these matters with you at an early date.

Sincerely,



Jim Zangger, Chairman
National Park Committee

5. 2013 SCHEDULE

October 17 & 18 – Spirit Knoll & Gitchie Manitou visit meeting at Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center

January 11, 2013 Friday – Wallace 4W, Des Moines

April 23, 2013 Tuesday – Field trip TBD

July 23, 2013 Tuesday, Wallace 4W, Des Moines

6. Next Meeting

October 17 & 18, 2012. Spirit Knoll & Gitchie Manitou and Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center

ADJOURNMENT

*Motion was made by Alex to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by McNeil
Approved by Unanimous Vote. With no further business to come before the State Preserves
Advisory Board, Chairperson Phipps adjourned the meeting on July 24, 2011 at 12:15 p.m.*

APPROVED – MEETING ADJOURNED

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